



## *Court Appointed Special Advocates*

### **SPRING TRAINING, 2016**

**Make the difference in the life of a child!**

**I** am for the child™



*CASA* is dedicated to serving abused and neglected children who have been removed from their homes for protection, and referred to CASA by the Family Court. We train volunteers to advocate in court on behalf of children and help secure them with a safe and permanent home as soon as possible.

#### *How You Can Help:*

Become another one of the 76,000 CASA Volunteers in the U.S. who have advocated for over 250,000 children in 2015 alone. You will establish and maintain contact with a child/ren, work with case workers, teachers, counselors, foster parents, biological parents and submit recommendations to the Court on behalf of the best interest of the child. No special background or education is necessary. Your time and a willingness to help a child in need is all we ask.

Sign up to attend **CASA Spring Training** (see pg. 3), beginning **Monday, April 18, 2016**.

Contact *Lindsey Jordan* to set up a pre-training interview at, **922-4827**.

***“Peers Making Peace”  
Conflict Resolution Facilitator  
Training***

Be certified as a trainer/facilitator of conflict resolution mediation to youth on probation.

Once certified you will be a trained facilitator for youth who are not appropriate to complete community service work in the community (age, risk, etc.). The youth completes 30 hours of training and is then a certified “Peers Making Peace” mediator. As a certified mediator the youth can use his/her skills in school settings, workplace, church, etc.

**May 23, 24, 25**

**8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Lower Level—Multi-Purpose Room**

**More information and r.s.v.p. to Lindsey at  
922-4827**

***-Guardianship Review Training-  
Re-Scheduled due to inclement  
weather***

***Wednesday, March 16th  
4:00-6:00 p.m.-Lower Level  
Multi-Purpose Room***

***Save the Date***

On Wednesday, March 16th from 4:00-6:00 p.m., a “mini-training” and review of guidelines for adult guardianship reviews as well as tips on, “how to attend the visit” will take place.

***Please contact Lindsey at 922-4827 to  
r.s.v.p. for this important training or to ask  
any questions. We look forward to seeing  
you all there.***

***In  
Loving  
Memory***



Harold Adler, passed away February 18, just a few weeks shy of his 100th birthday, March 11.

Harold started as a Probate Court Volunteer nearly 40 years ago and held several roles. He was a Volunteer Reimbursement Officer, helping the Probate Court work with families to collect money owed from fees. He was a transporter, driving and helping to take youth to and from detention centers. Most recently, staff and visitors to the Governmental Center will remember him as the steadfast presence as a greeter and helper to all who entered the building.

Harold was a great man, and a grand Volunteer.

**MARCH**

Carol Valko  
June Pate  
Wanda Anstine  
Dick Reddy  
Heide McNichols  
Ellen Briggs  
Christina Riddle  
Darcie Schlitt  
Bev Saur  
Pam Petajan  
Krysty Beaudrie  
Geoff Reddy  
Kara Dirlam  
Karianne Merritt

**APRIL**

Parker Field  
Victor Rioux  
Bonnie Lahde  
Barb Wilkins  
Arthur Nickerson  
Carolyn Klender  
Judy Zrimec  
Joan Layton  
Susan Kraus  
Cheryl Bzdok  
Sharon Herron  
Kathy Blunck  
Mary Jo Zazueta  
Lisa Niergarth  
Ronda Franklin  
Lisa Woodcox





Learning Partners are invited to attend any CASA Training Sessions that are of interest. Ten sessions in April and May include a variety of topics including; communicating with children and families, diversity, substance abuse, understanding the law, domestic violence and its effects on children, trauma informed approach, and more. Complete schedule to the right.

Volunteer Services has a need for Learning Partners on the East side of Grand Traverse County, if anyone lives near Fife Lake, or would not mind driving out that way (South Boardman, Kalkaska, Fife Lake), please let us know.

The school year will finish rather quickly for Learning Partners after their students return from Spring Break. April and May always seem to fly! We will be looking to see which matches are continuing to next year, and surveying teachers and families.

The annual Swim and Water Safety Program will happen in May. We are working on details and securing swim time. Stay tuned!

### **Sewing Project: Update**

Three youth have taken part in the sewing community service work project. Several pillow cases have been completed and arrangements are being made to deliver them to Child & Family Services. Thank you **Karen Mauro-Doren** (pictured) and **Laura Scott** for your time and expertise.



CASA has been busy planning for the upcoming Spring 2016 training. If you know of anyone interested in becoming a CASA please have them contact Lindsey for more information. The schedule of sessions is open to all current CASA trained volunteers as well, so if you would like to have a re-fresh, please join us.



### **Session Schedule:**

**Mon 4/18**

Chapter 1-Volunteer Manual

**Tues 4/19**

Chapter 2- Introducing the Law

**Mon 4/25**

Chapter 3- Cultural Awareness

**Tues 4/26**

Chapter 4- Understanding Families/Trauma Informed Approach

**Tues 5/3**

Chapter 5-Understanding Families/Effects of Substance Abuse

**Thurs 5/5**

Chapter 6- Understanding Children

**Mon 5/9**

Working with DHS

**Thurs 5/12**

Chapter 7- Communication

**Mon 5/16**

Chapter 8 & 9 Reporting & Monitoring

**Tues 5/17**

Chapter 9 & 10-Gathering Information and Pulling it all Together





**VOLUNTEERS IN  
PREVENTION/PROBATION**

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE COURT

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MELANIE D. STANTON, PROBATE & FAMILY COURT JUDGE

280 Washington St., Suite B 150, Traverse City, MI 49684

231-922-4827

Or Current Resident

### **Learning Partners**

1st Tuesday-4:00-5:00 pm

**Tuesday, March 1st, 2016**

**Tuesday, April 4th, 2016**



### **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)**

3rd Tuesday- 4:00-6:00 pm

**Tuesday, March 15th, 2016**

**Tuesday, April 19th, 2016**



**Change your clocks,  
Sunday March 13th, 2:00 a.m.**

**\*All meetings are held at the Volunteer Services office unless  
otherwise mentioned.**